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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT 1. Taiwan Invasion
2. Communist Troop Movements, Canton Area

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1. On 20 June 1950 LIN Piao and YEH Chien-ying left Canton for Peiping, where they arrived on 25 June, to receive a briefing for the Taiwan invasion.*
2. The Taiwan invasion forces will be spearheaded by LIN Piao's 4 Field Army, which was picked because of its experience and success in the Hainan invasion. CH'EN Yi's 3 Field Army will be held in reserve.
3. The Communist 40, 41, 43 and 44 Armies are concentrating in the Canton area in preparation for the Taiwan invasion. A total of 60,000 troops are in Shaho (113-19, 23-09), Shihpai (113-20, 23-07), and Whampoa; 30,000 are stationed in Taiping (113-46, 22-53), Boca Tigris (113-41, 22-49), and Tungkuansien (113-46, 23-02); and 15,000 are in the Faoanhsien (113-56, 22-32) area.
4. Middle schools hurriedly finished their final examinations to release student dormitories for barracks for troops returning to Canton from Hainan.** Some troops arriving in Canton from 1 to 3 July wore new light green uniforms, the only insignia being a breast cloth inscribed "People's Liberation Army." The uniform is the same for all ranks.
5. KUAN (關), a Communist teacher at the Baptist middle school in Canton, told his students that Communist troops would soon be going to Manchuria.***
6. Nationalist leaders in Hong Kong estimate the total Communist military strength in Kwangtung at 160,000, with 60,000 massed on the outer perimeter of Hong Kong. Nationalist officials comment that the Communists are giving the impression that they may invade Hong Kong but, in the event of world war, they would withdraw their troops to North China and Manchuria..

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7. The Kwangtung-Kwangsi Column is scheduled to leave for Hainan to relieve LIN Piao's troops remaining there, which will return to the mainland and join the Taiwan invasion force.

* ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. According to a different source ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ LIN went to Peiping on 12 June, and returned to Amoy on 18 June after discussing Taiwan invasion plans.

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** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. A rumor is current in Hong Kong, on the basis of a Taipei press report, that Communist troops will go from South China to Manchuria, then to the aid of the North Korean invading force.

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